The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

Entered as second-class matter September 10, 1912, at the Postoffice at Washington, D. C., under the act of August 24, 1912.

AGITATE!
EDUCATE!
ORGANIZE!

VOL. 8. NO. 17. WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1918. WHOLE NO. 381.

PROBLEMS OF FUTURE FACE TRADE UNIONS

Cincinnati, July 20.—In urging the placing of trade unionists in positions of public trust that the ideals of this country may be fulfilled after the war and that labor be protected, Editor Frey of the Iron Molders' Journal does not favor workers frittering away their time in before-the-war discussions.

"There is no particular benefit," he writes, "in discovering whether all of the allied countries entered the war with the same determination that there should be no annexations. The one great fact which we must keep in mind is that a war is now on, a determined opponent is straining every resource to crush our armies, and the millions of American boys, many of whom are trade unionists, now on the field must be supported to the utmost of our ability, for, to do otherwise, is to leave them in a position where they cannot even successfully defend their lives, this condition being equally true of the other allied nations. The workers are not willing to sacrifice their lives, neither are the trade unionists in the countries of our allies willing, that no man should be wounded in order that any policy of annexation should be carried out for the benefit of a few and the establishment of a condition which would only pave the way for another war in the future.

"The principles which the trade union movement have adopted as the basis for the carrying on of the war are as important in shaping international policies, so that a just peace can be entered into, as is their present support of the respective allied governments relative to the winning of the war.

"With these facts in mind it is now essential, even though peace may be some distance ahead, that our movement should prepare itself for the period of reconstruction which must follow the war.

"The future for our movement was never so bright as it is today, and we must unite in still further developing those elements of discipline and wise government within our own movement so that the confidence which is now placed in us will increase rather than diminish."

NEW LABOR LAW URGED.

Atlanta, Ga., July 20.—A new child labor law is urged by the Atlanta Georgian, in an editorial which disagrees with the United States supreme court in invalidating the Keating child labor law.

"The law which has been set aside," says the Georgian, "denied the right of interstate carriage to the products of factories operating with child labor of a certain class. The question of constitutionality was thrashed out pretty thoroughly in the debates in congress. It was there believed that the precedents set by the lottery ticket act, which denied the right of interstate carriage to lottery tickets, though their issuance was authorized by a soverign state, were operative in this instance. It was further urged that the provisions of the Mann act, making illegal the transportation of women across state lines for immoral purposes, furnished another case in point.

"But the supreme court, by the slender majority of one vote, has disregarded these precedents and declared the act unconstitutional. It holds, apparently, that to justify the prohibition of interstate carriage to articles or individuals, they must be, per se, intended for harmful or immoral ends. The lottery is essentially and notoriously harmful to its patrons.

"Taking little children of 9 or 11 years of age out of school and setting them to work in crowded factories apparently is not so considered."

U. S. INSURANCE HEAVY.

Washington, July 20.—Up to June 28 the government's bureau of war risk insurance has written $21,566,000,000 insurance for its military forces. The applicants total 2,570,355. The average amount of insurance applied for is $8,387, and in some battalions and regiments, some in France and some here, every man has taken out insurance. In some units every man is insured for the maximum $10,000.

Under this system the dependents of Uncle Sam's fighters are assured a livelihood if the fortunes of war decree that their breadwinners shall be lost in the fight for democracy.

Widespread impression that insurance of men in the military service is paid in lump sum after their death led the war department to make the announcement that payments of benefits under the war risk insurance act are over a period of 20 years.

The insurance is payable on the death of the insured, on the basis of $5.75 a month for each $1,000 of insurance in 240 monthly installments.

For the maximum of $10,000 the beneficiary would receive a payment of $57.50 a month for 20 years.

PLEAD FOR WORKERS' LIVES.

Los Angeles, Cal., July 20.—President Morgenthaler, of the Pacific district council of electrical workers, appeared before the state railroad commission to urge that the light and power companies of southern California be compelled to comply with the state law relative to safeguarding the lives of electrical workers. The unionist showed the hazardous work of these employes and said that if the commission did not order a compliance with the law the corporations would ignore it.

The corporations have asked that the law be postponed indefinitely because of "the impossibility of securing competent workers." The unionist insisted that there would be no difficulty in securing competent labor if a living wage were guaranteed.

STEAMSHIP EARNINGS GROW.

New York, July 20.—The annual report of the Atlantic & Pacific Steamship company gives further evidence that 1917 was the most prosperous year in the history of American shipping enterprises.

The company's clear profits for last year was $3,136,415. This is an increase of $738,211, or nearly 30 per cent, over the year 1916. The company has on hand nearly $3,000,000 in cash and marketable securities.

RAISE WAGES $4 A WEEK.

Trenton, N. J., July 20.—The high cost of living compelled organized moving picture operators to suspend work, after the managers refused to recognize changed conditions. A conference between the parties resulted in a wage increase of $4 a week. The new rate is $26.50 a week.

STATE UNIONS TO MEET.

Asheville, N. C., July 20.—The twelfth annual convention of the North Carolina state federation of labor will be called to order in this city on August 22 next.

BASIC EIGHT-HOUR DAY FAVORED BY WAR BOARD

Washington, July 20.—The national war labor board has announced five policies of far-reaching consequence in the employment of labor. They are:

Approval of the principle of the eight-hour day.

Insistence on the payment to labor of a "living wage."

Disapproval of the employment of children under 14 years of age on government contracts.

Disapproval of the direct or indirect employment on government contracts of prisoners who have been sentenced to hard labor.

Adoption of a dividing line between the war industries in which women should be employed and those in which they should not.

In the case of a strike of 2,000 workers at Waynesboro, Penn., the board fixed a minimum of 40 cents an hour for so-called "common" labor, and states that it has under consideration the question of determining the wage which must be the minimum rate of pay to enable the worker and his family to "subsist in health and reasonable comfort." This means that while the lowest grade of workers are assured 40 cents an hour they may obtain more if the board decides that such a rate does not provide a living wage.

MANY U. S. RAIL PROBLEMS.

Washington, July 20.—In a statement issued by the United States treasury department it is stated that some of our national transportation problems and difficulties can be better understood when it is remembered that in the northeastern section of the country, including New York, Pennsylvania, adjoining states and New England, the population is 693 persons to every mile of railroad; in the south the figures are 407 persons per mile; and in the west, 252.

There are 15 square miles of land to every mile of railroad in the west, while in the east there is one mile of railroad to every five square miles of land. There are innumerable factories in this eastern theater, and the bringing in of coal and raw material and the carrying out of manufactured products make up a tremendous freight tonnage.

The railroad administration is gradually solving many problems. By the elimination of many unnecessary passenger trains several thousand engines are diverted from passenger to freight traffic, which relieves the situation materially. Also by loading the freight cars to full capacity a great saving is being accomplished. Routing freight by the most direct haul, and other methods adopted by the administration, are doing much to ease the strain on our transportation facilities.

GAINS BY POLISHERS.

Racine, Wis., July 20.—Metal polishers employed in several local plants have raised wages 10 cents an hour. In one instance an additional 10 per cent increase has been secured.

Cincinnati, July 20.—The Chipman Plating company and the Kinsley Plating company have granted wage increases of 5 cents an hour to their metal polishers. The rate is now 50 cents an hour for an eight-hour day.

South Bend, Ind., July 20.—An agreement has been signed by the Engman-Mathews Stove company and its organized metal polishers. A 20 per cent wage increase makes the rate 67 2-10 cents an hour for a 50-hour week, or $33.60 a week.

Columbus, O., July 20.—Members of Metal Polishers' union employed by the A. T. Nye Stove company have raised wages to 61 cents an hour. Former rates were 40 cents. The work day is reduced from 10 to nine hours the first five days of the week and to five hours on Saturday.

LIVING COSTS INCREASE.

Washington, July 20.—Food prices in the United States advanced 6 per cent in the year from April 15, 1917, to April 15, 1918, reports the United States bureau of labor statistics, in its Monthly Review, June issue.

Four articles show a price decline—potatoes, 62 per cent; sugar, 6 per cent; flour, 3 per cent, and butter 1 per cent. Corn meal, with 54 per cent, showed the greatest increase. Ham jumped 22 per cent; lard, 28; bacon and milk, 30 each; eggs, 10; bread and sirloin steak, 15 each; pork chops, 16; rib roast, 17, and round steak, 19 per cent.

In the five-year period from April, 1913, to April, 1918, food as a whole shows an increase of 57 per cent. In no instance was the increase less than 25 per cent. Three articles—flour, lard and corn meal—increased 100 per cent, 109 per cent and 142 per cent respectively.

WILL INSURE SEAMEN.

Washington, July 20.—Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo has included American merchant vessels leaving Atlantic and gulf ports in the war risk insurance.

The new order makes it obligatory for the owners of all American merchant vessels leaving Atlantic and gulf ports for any ports whatsoever, and vice versa, including vessels engaged in coastwise traffic, to insure the masters, officers and crews against the loss of life or personal injury, or capture caused by the risks of war.

Heretofore this insurance has been compulsory only for vessels trading between the United States and various European ports and certain designated ports of Africa.

WOMEN RECOGNIZED.

Washington, July 20.—Secretary of Labor Wilson has announced the establishment of a women's division in the department of labor as a recognition of the great importance of the work of women in industry and the necessity for a national policy in determining the conditions of their employment.

Miss Mary Van Kleeck has been appointed chief of the new division.

679,618 WOMEN ENROLLED.

Albany, N. Y., July 20.—Women in this state appear to have taken seriously their newly-acquired franchise right. According to the state superintendent of elections 679,618 women have enrolled as members of political parties. This total is divided among 375,082 republicans, 247,676 democrats, 36,809 prohibitionists and 19,950 socialists.

WIN UNION SHOP.

Vancouver, British Columbia, July 20.—Electrical workers and telephone girls employed by the local telephone company have secured a union shop contract and wage increases.

PRESIDENT REJECTS BORLAND PROPOSAL

Washington, July 20.—The National Federation of Federal Employes has scored heavily by President Wilson's veto of the Borland amendment to the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, which provided that the work day of government employes should be increased from seven to eight hours.

Under the present law government officials can extend the work day when conditions warrant. Congressman Borland urged that the eight-hour day be mandatory, and cited organized labor's position on the eight-hour day. The American Federation of Labor assisted the government employes and showed that the Borland plan did not provide for overtime and that not a single department executive had suggested that this legislation is necessary.

Mr. Borland insisted that his amendment would result in a great saving to the government, and his opponents replied by asking why he did not favor reducing the amount of the appropriations carried in the bill.

In vetoing the bill President Wilson said:

"At the outset of the war I felt it my duty to urge all employers in the United States to make a special effort to see to it that the conditions of labor were in no respect altered unfavorably to the laborers.

"Having taken this position in an earnest appeal to other employers, I do not feel justified in assenting to a measure in which the United States as an employer changes the conditions of the labor of its own employes unfavorably to them, and I feel the freer to take this position because I have not learned from any quarter that the employes of the government of the district have been slack in their labor or have demurred from doing any of the necessary additional tasks which the time and the exigencies require. On the contrary, I have learned that they have cheerfully done additional labor and have not needed the compulsion of law."

CHEAP WAGES ARE VICIOUS.

Washington, July 20.—Testifying before a congressional committee in favor of a minimum wage bill for District of Columbia working women, Edward A. Filene, a Boston merchant, declared that cheap wages make cheap standards in employers, and cheap standards in employers make cheap employes.

"It is a vicious circle that ought to be broken and destroyed," he said.

"A curious thing," he continued, "about the hearings on minimum wage as I have read them—because I have not been to many—is that it has always been a plea for the work people. Now, we bosses get just as much from the minimum wage as our people do, because a $5-a-week girl makes a cheap boss. That is literally true. You can not get real organization out of people who are unintelligent, and people can not be intelligent who have not enough to properly live on.

"A working girl, worried about paying for her clothing and lodging, is not going to be very ambitious, you know, to heed the preachments that we bosses put into her—burden her with. She is not, as a rule, going to have the ambition to try to learn how to earn more money. She is not going to try to do it, or if she does try, she fails."

TABOO LABOR AGENTS.

Washington, July 20.—Manufacturers who attempt to hire workmen from war industries will feel the strong arm of the government in the future. The war industries board has voted that raw materials will be denied employers who attempt to recruit labor by using competitive peace-time methods. The board has adopted the following resolution:

"That the practice of manufacturers using competitive peace-time methods in the procurement of labor, resulting in the withdrawal of labor from war industries, is strongly disapproved, and henceforth this board, through its priorities division, will in proper cases withhold priority assistance from employers who persist in pursuing such methods."

It is understood that the board aims to suppress the so-called "labor agent," who frequently hampers the production of war necessities by raiding the factories and inducing the men to leave in large numbers for some new industry, promising great advantages in working conditions and pay.

FIND BABIES UNDERFED.

New York, July 20.—Many babies in this city are suffering because of the high price of milk, the mayor's committee of women on national defense finds after investigating this subject, with special reference to babies between 2 and 6 years of age.

In its appeal for public funds, the committee states that $10 will supply milk for one child for the summer months.

"Investigation shows that 21 per cent of the population of children between the ages of 2 and 6 years in New York are underfed. To remedy this evil is a necessary war measure. The cost of food has increased over 100 per cent, and it has been discovered that many children have been given tea, coffee, beer, etc., rather than the necessary nourishment. There is no substitute for milk."

GAINS IN U. S. PRINT SHOP.

Washington, July 20.—President Wilson has signed the urgent deficiency bill which carries wage increases of $311,873 a year to machine operators, compositors, pressmen and bookbinders employed in the government printing office. Added to this is an increase of $120 a year each for these workers, under the recently enacted legislative, judicial and executive appropriation bill. This is a total yearly increase of $500,032 for these workers.

Machinists, electricians, and other employes who are paid out of lump sums appropriated by congress and who are not classed as "statutory employes," have been given substantial increases by Public Printer Ford.

CARPENTERS END STRIKE.

Peoria, Ill.—The strike of carpenters in this city is at an end. Wages are increased to 75 cents an hour and other questions will be arbitrated.

Dallas, Tex., July 20.—Organized carpenters have secured a wage increase of $1.40 a day, making their scale $6.40.

NINE HOURS FOR MILL MEN.

Duluth, Minn., July 20.—Organized mill men and cabinet makers have secured a nine-hour day decision from the state board of arbitration and double time for Sundays and holidays.

BRITISH OFFICIALS VALUE TRADE UNIONS

London, England, July 20.—The British government's committee on relations between employers and employed (known as the Whitley committee) is squarely facing facts on the question of trade unionism, and in its latest supplemental report on industrial peace, says:

"Our proposals as a whole assume the existence of organizations of both employers and employed and a frank and full recognition of such organizations. We think the aim should be the complete and coherent organization of the trade on both sides, and works committee will be of value in so far as they contribute to such a result."

The committee favors the creation of committees by workers in every establishment to adjust minor disputes and which affect the daily life and comfort of the workers and the success of the business. Wage rates should be no part of the function of these committees, but should be settled by district or national agreement between organizations of employers and workers.

The government's investigators plainly indicate that if industrial peace is to prevail in England trade unionism must be recognized in the full sense of the word and works committees should not be used to discourage trade unionism.

The investigators even declare that the co-operation of trade unions are necessary. They report:

"It is strongly felt that the setting up of works committees without the co-operation of the trade unions and the employers' associations in the trade or branch of trade concerned would stand in the way of the improved industrial relationships which in these reports we are endeavoring to further."

SCOTLAND AIDS MOONEY.

San Francisco, July 20.—Organized iron molders of Scotland have pledged their assistance to Thomas Mooney, under sentence of death in this city for alleged complicity in the preparedness day bomb outrage last year.

Secretary Liddell of the Associated Iron Molders of Scotland has written this letter to Mooney's attorneys:

"We have followed his case with interest and when we got to know of the final decision we approached our official executive council of the Associated Iron Molders and responsible labor members of the government, with the result that many cablegrams of protest were sent to President Wilson of the U. S. A., and governor of California, protesting against this miscarriage of justice and supporting the claim for a new trial. I may say that the whole trade union movement throughout Great Britain and Ireland is in full sympathy with our fellow molder and trade unionist, as we believe that he is innocent of the crime he is charged with. I am enclosing a copy of the letter sent to the various members of parliament, and I have also been instructed to send you a donation of $25 for the defense fund.

"We will be pleased to render all assistance possible, financial and otherwise."

TUBERCULOSIS THRIVES.

Chicago, July 20.—Writing in the publication of the municipal tuberculosis sanitarium, Dr. Dosu Doseff says:

"The greater number of families coming to our tuberculosis dispensaries come from the immigrant class. In the survey work we found them living in front, rear or middle 'apartments' of tenement houses, built before the present building code of the city became effective. It has been the writer's observation that 75 per cent of these families live in the kitchen of these 'apartments,' where the stove is blazing hot and the room usually filled with steam from the family washing, spread above the stove to dry. The windows are invariably stuffed with rags to keep the cold out, and the doors kept tightly shut.

"Poverty, ignorance, overcrowding, and a lack of fresh air are the essential causes which are responsible for the large number of anemic, malnourished and undeveloped children, which we are daily recommending for admission to the open-air schools."

CONTROL WAR WORK LABOR.

Washington, July 20.—Secretary of Labor Wilson has announced that beginning August 1 the United States department of labor, through its employment service, will gradually take charge of the mobilizing and placing of all labor for war industries employing 100 or more workers.

"This plan," says Secretary Wilson, "will correct the abuse and the troubles growing out of the larger labor turnover with the consequent disruption of regular work. Every safeguard must be taken to protect the standard of living and the morale of the wage earners. Especially must great care be taken to keep the age limit of those who enter industry at a high level. We must also take knowledge of the dangers attendant upon the large entrance of women into heavy and hazardous industries.

"The exigencies of war times should not be made the occasion for the breaking down of those standards of hours, wages and conditions of work which are designed to protect the childhood and the motherhood of the present and the future."

U. S. TO BUILD HOUSES.

Washington, July 20.—The department of labor announces the creation of the United States housing corporation, which will build houses for war workers under legislation passed by congress. The charter was taken out under the laws of the state of New York, and the articles of incorporation provide for the issuance of 1,000 shares of stock without par value.

The stock is held on behalf of the government by Secretary of Labor Wilson, who is credited with 998 shares, and President Eidlitz and Secretary Box of the corporation with one share each.

PRINTERS RESENT INSULT.

Sacramento, Cal., July 20.—While the I. W. W. is still a bogy man for excitable editors, one newspaper in this city will be more careful in the future, after reading resolutions passed by the Sacramento Typographical union.

The newspaper published a cartoon in which President Wilson is caricatured as crouching in abject terror at an advancing animal personified as the legendary I. W. W. Under the cartoon was inscribed the word "Buffaloed."

The printers denounced this insult to the nation's executive.

STREET CAR MEN GAIN.

Toronto, Canada, July 20.—The Street Car Men's union has secured a wage increase of 7 cents an hour.

DENIS HAYES' MEMORY REVERED BY UNIONISTS

Zanesville, O., July 20.—Typifying the strong character of the late Denis A. Hayes, the Glass Bottle Blowers' association unveiled a massive granite monument in this city to the memory of their late president.

Participating in the ceremonies were delegates to the convention of the Glass Bottle Blowers' association and other trade unionists from many cities. John A. Voll, president of the Glass Bottle Blowers' association, directed the ceremonies and opened the program with a short address. Secretary Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, represented that organization, and, with John P. Frey, editor of the Iron Molders' Journal, were the principal speakers. Secretary Morrison recalled the unselfish life of the departed trade unionist and his efficient work as a member of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor.

The Glass Manufacturers' association paid a tribute to the departed unionist in a message through representatives present which testified to his sterling worth. "His greatest strength," said these employers who have opposed him in many wage conferences, "was his absolute honesty, fairness and good faith in all his dealings."

Messages of regret were received from President Gompers and Vice President Duncan, of the A. F. of L., who were unable to attend this last tribute to the memory of their former friend and co-worker.

EMPLOYERS DON'T FORGET.

Phoenix, Ariz., July 20.—Copper barons in this state, speaking through subordinates, have caused the rejection of G. A. Franz as a member of the state council of defense.

The purpose of the council is to unite all forces in the interests of the war, but the copper employers are more interested in checking unionism than in developing patriotism.

Under the law the governor appoints a citizen from each county as a member of the council. These appointments must be confirmed by the county board of supervisors. The governor appointed G. A. Franz as a representative from Greenlee county, but the name was rejected on the petition of 19 citizens, 14 of whom are connected with copper companies.

The petitioners declare that Franz' appointment would be "a menace to the peace of the community and an insult to the respectability of our citizenship."

Franz is a merchant in the Clifton-Morenci district, and during the recent strike gave hearty support to the strikers. He extended credit to them to the amount of $20,000, which made it possible for many miners to stay in the district and carry on the fight.

FORTUNES IN SALARIES.

Washington, July 20.—The payment of extraordinary salaries to officials by the large metal companies, and charged to the companies' expenses, have proved a dominant factor in the tremendously high prices of basic metals, according to a report by the federal trade commission.

"An illuminating example of high remuneration charged to the expense account," it is stated, "is that given by the American Metal company, limited, of New York, the chief dealings of which are in zinc."

The remuneration of one man in this conpany for the year of 1917, the report shows, was $364,326.73, nearly five times the salary of the president of the United States. Five officials of the company received a total of $1,198,600.63 during the past year, while nine other officials were paid a total of $600,079.86, or an average of about $66,000 for the year's work.

The salaries of 12 minor officials and heads of departments averaged about $9,000 a year.

WOULD BOYCOTT WAR.

San Francisco, July 20.—"Economic pressure by business men," or, in other words, the old-fashioned boycott, was advocated by Herbert S. Houston at the convention of the associated advertising clubs of the world as a remedy against future wars.

The speaker is connected with an eastern publishing house, and declared that the only way to stop militaristic flare-ups in the future was for business men in other countries to smite the mailed fist with the power of the boycott, or, as he explained, "with the mighty weapon of economic power," operating through a league of free nations.

Mr. Houston quoted statistics to show that the allies now possess this economic power, and pleaded that it be used in the interest of future peace and against those who would inflame the world.

ACTIVE IN CHARLESTON.

Charleston, W. Va., July 20.—Local unionists are in the van in trade union activity. The central body is preparing to celebrate Labor day with patriotic exercises and a monster win-the-war parade. The miners of the Kanawha valley will participate and it will be the greatest demonstration ever held in this state.

The blacksmiths have organized, as have the butchers and meat cutters. The recently organized Machinists' union is having no difficulty in securing wages and working conditions.

Officials of the miners' district office report that over 14,000 members have been added in the Fairmont field during the past few weeks as a result of an organizing campaign now being carried on under the direction of President Keeney.

POWER OF TWO FORCES.

Washington, July 20.—The treasury department states that the entente allies—excluding Russia and including only those British dominions which are self-governing and only the United States proper—have 11,000,000 square miles of territory, 302,000,000 people and $495,000,000,000 of national wealth.

The central powers have 1,250,000 square miles of territory, 147,000,000 people and $134,000,000,000 of national wealth.

The entente owe an aggregate debt of $82,000,000,000, which is about 14 per cent of their total assets. The central powers owe $37,000,000,000, or 28 per cent of their national wealth.

WAGE RAISE FOR PLUMBERS.

Duluth, Minn., July 20.—The state board of arbitration has ordered wages of plumbers in this city to be increased from $5.60 to $6.10 a day.

NO CONVICT COAL MINERS.

Washington, July 20.—The federal fuel administration has refused to accept the suggestion that convicts be used in southern coal mines.

U. S. WIRE CONTROL IS MADE POSSIBLE

Washington, July 20.—The first practical gain in the long fight for the nationalization of telegraph and telephone lines was made by congress when it empowered the president to seize these utilities as a war measure, if in his judgment it is necessary. The president is authorized to take over and operate all telegraph, telephone, cable and radio lines for the period of the war.

The senate passed the house resolution without amendment by a vote of 46 to 16. Among the latter number were those who "viewed with alarm" and declared that "the country is plunging headlong into a dangerous situation."

While opponents of the resolution advanced various reasons for refusing to concur, it was apparent that the growing tide of government control and ownership is most distasteful.

If the president commandeers the wire systems they will be operated by the post office department.

MOONEY'S APPEAL DENIED.

San Francisco, July 20.—The California state supreme court has denied Thomas Mooney's plea for a writ of probable cause, which would have paved the way for an overthrow of Judge Griffin's decision that a court has no right to set aside a decision when it has been discovered that fraud has been used to secure the verdict.

The fight to save Mooney's life has taken a political angle because of the announcement by District Attorney Fickert, who prosecuted Mooney, that he is a candidate for governor of California. Many trade unions have already passed resolutions on this subject which would indicate to Mr. Fickert that organized labor will express its sentiments on election day contrary to his wishes.

This feature of the case, however, will not be allowed to overshadow the all-important work at hand to save Mooney by insistent agitation.

UNIONISTS CHEER FRANCE.

Washington, July 20.—Headed by President Gompers, representing the American Federation of Labor, a score of the larger North American international trade unions cabled greetings to the people of France on July 14—Bastile day—the birthday of French independence.

In his message, President Gompers said:

"America's organized workers are proud to greet the people of France in a spirit of brotherhood and fraternity on this anniversary of France's historic blow for freedom. As we signalize this day in common, we fight today for ideals that are common, the enlarged ideals of those who gave world significance so long ago to July 14 as they did to July 4."

The bastile was a state prison and was destroyed by Paris revolutionists on July 14, 1789. The building was used to confine political prisoners. The king supplied blank forms of arrest to his favorites, who would make the arrest of any one possible by inserting the name of the objectionable person and handing the document to the authorities. The destruction of the bastile marked the beginning of the French revolution.

PROTECTS CHILD LABOR.

Washington, July 20.—The war labor policies board has authorized the following statement of the position of the production departments of the government concerning child labor and prison labor:

"All work required in carrying out this contract shall be performed in full compliance with the laws of the state, territory or District of Columbia where such labor is performed. A contractor shall not directly or indirectly employ in the performance of his contract any minor under the age of 14 years, or permit any minor between the age of 14 and 16 years to work more than eight hours in any one day, more than six days in any one week, or before 6 a. m. or after 7 p. m. Nor shall the contractor directly or indirectly employ any person undergoing sentence of imprisonment at hard labor which may have been imposed by a court of any state, territory, or municipality having criminal jurisdiction."

EMPLOYERS VICTIMIZE.

Toronto, Canada, July 20.—T. W. Crothers, Dominion minister of labor, calls on Canadian employers to cease victimizing trade unionists. The official says:

"Perhaps in larger numbers than ever before complaints reach the minister of labor from working men, that their employers forbid, upon penalty of dismissal, their becoming members of any labor organization. Such complaints are generally well founded.

"The minister deeply regrets this attitude on the part of so many employers, believing it well calculated to produce serious labor disturbances. He maintains that every man must be at perfect liberty to associate himself with his fellow workers in any legitimate labor organization without thereby subjecting himself to penalties or discriminations of any character. He expresses the hope that employers may accept this attitude in this regard, and that hereafter no just cause for such complaints may arise."

HIGH RENTS PROTESTED.

Washington, July 20.—Long Beach, Cal., ship yard workers have petitioned the United States shipping board to relieve them from the exactions of rent profiteers.

It is stated that many of these workers are paying from $20 to $35 a month for two-room tent houses. The petitioners show that a man who earns $100 a month and pays $30 a month for rent really makes only $2 a day for other living expenses.

NEW FOOD CONTROLLER.

London, England, July 20.—J. R. Clynes, labor member of parliament from Manchester, has been appointed to succeed the late Lord Rhondda as British food controller.

The new official represented the British trade union movement as fraternal delegate to the American Federation of Labor at its Toronto, Canada, convention in 1909.

WIN EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Vancouver, British Columbia, July 20.—The Steam Engineers' union has won its fight for an eight-hour day. When the plan was first suggested the employers were decidedly hostile to a reduction of hours, but a strong union of workers educated the bosses.

"Work-or-Fight" Law Is Vetoed

Phoenix, Ariz., July 20.—Governor Hunt has vetoed a proposed "work-or-fight" law because it was passed by the state legislature without due regard for conditions in this state.

He says it is not a question of efficiency or the preservation of national ideals, and that when it becomes necessary to conscript labor and wealth, such action should be a national policy and not left to the varying actions of the states.

"The chief industry in this state," he says, "is mining, and practically all the companies do not give employment to men over 45 years of age. The bill, which I am disapproving, requires all men to work up to the age of 60. If men who have reached the advanced age of between 45 and 60 years are compelled to work in a state that limits their usefulness proper safeguards must be placed around the fields that are open to them. Farming, for instance, is a new industry in this state, and without any legal restrictions or provisions of employment. If this bill covered provisions for a minimum wage, housing conditions or any provision whatever insuring a decent and American standard of living for workers, it might justify telling a man of advanced years he must work at least 36 hours a week, in a state where his field of activities is greatly limited.

"The bill passed, to me, is drastic and shows little time and study in its preparation, but, rather, tends to that form of war hysteria which is so apt to inflict upon the people of our country the very obnoxious form of tyranny which we object to so strongly in our enemies and would be apt to make a mockery of the very democracy which we are fighting to preserve.

"Nothing in the investigations that have been conducted throughout the state convinces me that we have any real vagrancy problem. We have a certain labor shortage, but that must not be confounded with the question of vagrancy. Vagrancy exists chiefly in communities that sanction whisky and prostitution. Our state, having eliminated both of these evils, is remarkably free from the professional vagrant. The government is wisely and actively considering the question of labor shortage and vagrancy. General Crowder's recent 'work-or-fight' order for men of draft age will eliminate young men from unnecessary industries. The department of labor is efficiently assuming charge of the entire labor question, and all employers have been requested to secure their labor through government agencies. In this state an order has been issued prohibiting outside concerns from coming in and securing labor to take outside the state. The effect of House bill No. 2, if approved, would, I am convinced, merely be to keep labor from the state and divert it to other states where the laws are more compatible to our ideals of government.

"The bill carries no emergency clause, and, in any event, could not become a law until 90 days have elapsed. That would make it effective at a date close to the fall elections, in view of which fact—and if any such legislation is necessary—it had far better be placed before the people, through the initiative. In a state whose constitution provides for direct government by the people, no one has the right to assume responsibility for a measure that would appear to attack the very bulwarks of our form of government."

UNITY BRINGS CHANGES.

Clarksburg, W. Va., July 20.—Seventeen years ago Mother Jones was arrested by United States marshals and taken at night to Parkersburg and placed in jail with eight union miners for violating a federal injunction.

Five years ago two miners were notified that if they distributed bills announcing an address by Mother Jones in this city they would be shot to death.

This year one of the features of Clarksburg's Fourth of July celebration was a parade of union miners and other workers. As orator of the day Mother Jones headed the parade in a carriage in which were also seated the mayor and the chief of police.

Altoona, Pa., July 20.—The successful convention of Pennsylvania railroad shop men in this city recalls an attempt by these workers in 1911 to organize. They were denied admittance to any building and at a mass meeting of business men it was resolved that organizers be ordered to leave the city.

In 1918, however, these workers, now thoroughly organized as a result of their perseverance, were welcomed by the mayor and every other courtesy shown them.

TEA-COFFEE TAX FAVORED.

Washington, July 20.—On the theory that it is better to heavily tax a few necessities than place a light tax on all necessities, the United States chamber of commerce suggests a tax of 20 cents a pound on tea and 8 cents a pound on coffee to raise war revenue. A revenue-raising plan has been prepared by a committee and will be submitted to the chamber's affiliates for their consideration.

A "moderate" tax is proposed on gasoline.

War taxes with an excess profits tax as high as 80 per cent in some cases is favored. In this connection it is suggested that exemptions be made "for the safe conduct of business," and provisions be made for the setting aside of liberal amounts to re-establish plants on a peace basis that are now engaged in war work. Another suggestion provides that when the government computes taxable incomes corporations shall be allowed to deduct interest and gifts to charity, which are now denied.

"SHORT LINE" ACT VETOED.

Washington, July 20.—The president has vetoed the act of congress which prohibited the railroad administration from relinquishing control of short line railroads which are not necessary to maintain a federal railroad system.

Under the terms of the act the government would be compelled to assume the control and administration of all railroads without discrimination. The veto message showed that there are terminal short lines at many centers of freight shipment and some 1,700 short lines which were built and are controlled by manufacturing, mining, lumbering and other companies, and are operated merely for the convenience of these concerns.

The president drew a sharp line between these small properties and the great trunk lines that are so essential for war transportation purposes.

OVERTIME MUST BE PAID.

Portland, Ore., July 20.—Circuit Court Judge Morrow has ruled that a contractor must pay double time for more than eight hours' work on public contracts, though the laborer has accepted pay for overtime at the regular time rate.

Attorneys for the contractor held that the acceptance of single time pay barred the worker from further consideration, but the court sustained the plaintiff's attorney who held that contractors figure on eight hours and pay for overtime when bidding on public work and that any variation from this law, even with the consent of the worker, is an injustice to other contractors, and to justify the act would be making the state a party to the fraud.

'NOTHER HAND-PICKED UNION.

Chicago, July 20.—The tide of trade unionism is becoming so strong that even President Carlton of the Western Union Telegraph company is affected.

A hand-picked "union" of commercial telegraphers is the result.

The scheme was launched in this city and will have no more connection with the bona fide trade union movement than has Mr. Rockefeller's "union" of Colorado miners.

It is stated that Mr. Carlton has bestowed his blessing upon the new venture.

GAIN $5 A WEEK.

Cincinnati, July 20.—Organized cereal and malt workers, affiliated with the International Union of the United Brewery and Soft Drink Workers, have secured voluntary wage increases of $5 a week.

TABOO FANCY "EDUCATION."

Washington, July 20.—The federal board for vocational education, in its official publication, states that there appears to exist in the minds of many people a total misconception of what vocational re-education is, as applied to disabled soldiers and sailors. The board, which is charged with the duty of re-educating these injured men, is constantly receiving communications from people who have this, that or the other supposed "art" or "craft" which is offered as being "just the thing to teach the poor dear wounded soldiers." These suggestions run all the way from making "artcraft" out of sealing wax, making paper flowers and gilding pine cones, to constructing alleged ornaments out of putty.

The board does not intend to teach any such rubbish. The education to be given will, in the main, be in highly specialized occupations which are good paying, recognized and manly callings which have a definite, useful place in the business world, and a steady demand for such work or the products thereof.

The board states that evidently many of these well-intentioned advocates of gilded peanut hulls and gimcrack nicknack making are mentally confused and do not know either what "occupational therapeutics" and vocational education are, or the part they play.

10 LABOR UMPIRES NAMED.

Washington, July 20.—President Wilson has named 10 men to act as umpires in controversies which cannot be settled by agreement of the membership of the national war labor board.

They are Henry Ford, of Detroit; Matthew Hale, of Boston; James Harry Covington, of Washington, formerly chief justice of the District of Columbia supreme court; Charles Caldwell McChord, of the interstate commerce commission; V. Everit Macy, of New York; Judge Julian William Mack, of Chicago; Henry Suzzallo, president of the University of Washington; former Governor John Lind, of Minnesota; William R. Willcox, of New York city, and Walter Clark, of Raleigh, N. C., chief justice of the supreme court of North Carolina.

When the war labor board fails to agree in a controversy the matter will be referred to an umpire selected from the above list. The umpire will be chosen by unanimous vote of the board members. In case the vote is not unanimous the name will be drawn by lot.

SOME PICKETING ILLEGAL.

Little Rock, Ark., July 20.—By a three to two vote the state supreme court has ruled that it is unlawful for strike pickets to carry a banner in front of a non-union concern.

The court does not deny the right of workers to picket, but distinguishes between that right and when it is carried on as indicated above.

The court said that "the labor union or its representatives and employes had the right to exhibit the placards in question to the public, but it is a far different thing to say that the right to exhibit these placards to the public carried with it the right to patrol or to picket appellee's (the employer's) places of business with these placards so as to interfere with his lawful business."

In effect, the court rules that the story of antagonism to fair conditions on the part of an employer may be scattered broadcast by trade unionists in this state, but it must not be told in front of the employer's place of business.

EIGHT HOURS SUFFICIENT.

Indianapolis, Ind., July 20.—Newspapers that are advocating a work day longer than eight hours for miners are advised by the United Mine Workers' Journal that there is no economy in shutting down mines from one to three days a week and then asking the miners to work long hours when the mines are in operation. It is stated that in many places the mines are working only three or four days a week.

If the miners are supplied with sufficient cars and are kept in steady operation, says the Journal, they will turn out all the coal that is required to meet the needs of the country.

PRISON BILL SIGNED.

Washington, July 20.—President Wilson has signed a bill which empowers the department of justice to equip the Atlanta federal prison that prisoners may be employed in the manufacture of tents, canvas mail bags and other material for the government. The attorney general may set wages to be paid the convicts.

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES.

Winnipeg, Manitoba, July 20.—After a three-days' strike members of Typographical union employed in commercial shops raised wages $4 a week. The new rates are $26.